

New York Tribune.

First to Last—the Truth: News—Editorials—Advertisements.

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The Value of an Extra Session of Congress.

"The New York Times" said yesterday, expressing its opposition to an extra session of Congress: "The suggestion that the President call Congress in extra session is a needless and uncalculated, and if it were carried out might produce results other than those who make it say they have in mind." The "other results" about which "The Times" is apprehensive include a possible attempt on the part of Congress to influence the attitude which the administration has taken as a champion of American rights on the high seas and to interfere with negotiations pending with the two sets of European belligerents.

If there were nothing more important for Congress to do than to discuss our foreign policy, no sensible person would favor an extra session. Interference by Congress in negotiations with foreign powers is improper and undesirable, and such interference is always resented not only by the Executive Department, but by the people. The President should have a free hand in conducting foreign relations up to the point at which treaties are signed or other action is to be taken which needs approval from one or both houses of Congress. Even if Congress happened to be now in session, the Executive would retain the sole power of initiative in matters of foreign policy.

But the vital question now before the country and the one on which the promptest possible action by Congress is needed is a domestic one. It is the question of strengthening our national defenses. Outside the peace-at-any-price group hardly anybody will say that we have an army and a navy adequate for our needs in case we become involved as a champion of neutral rights in a war with a first class military power. In an article immediately following that in which it deprecated the calling of an extra session "The Times" admitted that our navy is far below the proper standard of strength. It said:

Mr. Truman H. Newberry, who was Secretary of the Navy in 1908-9, joins his voice with many others in the demand for the rebuilding of our navy. His statement that we lack fighting ships of the speed of many in foreign navies cannot be refuted. Excepting the destroyers, our only fast ships are third-class cruisers, which could not safely engage modern battle cruisers or well-armed submarines. We certainly need more ammunition ships, colliers and submarines.

The army is far weaker relatively than the navy is. If our naval efficiency were to be put at 60 per cent of the standard, the efficiency of the army would be only 10 or 15 per cent.

The object which those who advocate an extra session have in view is the immediate strengthening of our military resources. President Wilson has apparently discarded Mr. Bryan's theory that in enforcing our rights on the high seas we can depend exclusively on pacific instrumentalities, on diplomatic persuasion or on arbitration. He has made demands on Germany which, unless the German government reverses its position and alters the spirit of its diplomacy, may have to be backed up eventually by force.

We do not now possess the force necessary to make good our words, and the only way in which increases in our military strength can be effected is through action by Congress. The administration alone can do nothing but maintain the status quo. It has no authority to increase the navy or to reorganize the army, and no money with which to pay for increases.

Mr. Wilson has a competent and enlightened Secretary of War, whose plans for military reorganization are sound, but who failed utterly last winter to get support for them from an indifferent Congress. The present Secretary of the Navy, on the other hand, is an opponent of proper naval development, a millionaire about the neck of the navy. He asked from Congress last year even less than Congress was willing to give him and actually did give him. The alternative to an extra session is, therefore, a continuance of our present state of unpreparedness for six months to come, which is equivalent to giving notice to the world that the threat of an appeal to force in our diplomacy is a threat with nothing substantial behind it.

The country is entitled to know whether

or not Mr. Bryan, when he left the State Department, took his theories on the uselessness of military preparedness with him. An extra session of Congress would have the great utility of showing us exactly where we stand. If the President wants to retain the incapable Josephus in office, to go on discouraging a capable Secretary of War by withholding active support from all the latter's plans for army reorganization, to trust to luck and watchful waiting to pull us through without a clash which would expose our pitiful military weakness, the people ought to understand clearly what the situation is and who is responsible for it.

Circumstances have never before in our time so plainly demonstrated the need of an adequate national defense. If in the present crisis Congress cannot be trusted to do its duty soberly and patriotically, without trying to infringe on the prerogatives of the Executive, it would be better to recall Mr. Bryan and to resign ourselves to his theory that national rights can be maintained in any and all emergencies without either an army or a navy.

Another Trial for Thaw.

The jury trial granted to Harry Thaw will presumably involve a repetition of the edifying spectacle we are already so familiar with—an array of expert witnesses discoursing learnedly, contradicting one another, and splitting hairs on the definitions of paranoia, dementia precox and all other varieties of mental unsoundness down to constitutional inferiority.

As to the business of the twelve good men and true, it may comfort them to be assured that in pronouncing judgment on the relative merits of the technical arguments on either side they are in no way bound to shoulder "the burden and responsibility of ultimately deciding the issue." That task, according to the decision of the Court of Appeals, must rest with the judge, who "simply intends to take the verdict of such jury by way of advice and aid." In short, though it is admitted that Thaw himself is not entitled to a jury trial, yet it seems that the judge has a perfect right to call a jury to make his task easier.

This is probably very good law, but on any other score it is impossible to defend. If there is a question which a jury is less fitted to pass upon than another it is a question of this kind. The opinions of expert psychiatrists have been secured in abundance in the Thaw case, and what can possibly be gained by dragging them up again and placing them once more before a jury it is difficult to see, the more difficult seeing the jury has not the power, if it had the capacity, to decide upon their merits.

Our Latest Super-Dreadnought.

The launching of the Arizona was a fitting occasion for manifestations of gladness. It is natural that it should be followed by a liberal effusion of rhetoric and a great deal about "Uncle Sam's latest and greatest," together with many fervid and more or less reasoned attempts to establish her supremacy among the fighting ships of the world. The Arizona deserves all the praise bestowed upon her, and if any eulogist has been overzealous in matching her points against those of her foreign rivals his enthusiasm may be condoned on the score of an amiable patriotism.

It is a negative and aimless sort of patriotism, however, that is satisfied with details of this kind when the general state of the navy is so notoriously unsatisfactory. It is alleged that no other navy possesses so powerful a battleship as the Arizona or the Pennsylvania, but while that is a debatable question the deficiencies of our navy are not in any way debatable. We may argue about the relative merits of the Arizona's twelve 14-inch guns and the eight 16-inch guns of the Queen Elizabeth; we may make light of the superior speed of the latter and pick out points in favor of our own latest battleship; but what we cannot do is to accept with equanimity the demonstrable inferiority of our navy as a whole among the navies of the world. We have not even one battle cruiser; we are short of fast cruisers and scouts; we have nothing like a sufficient number of destroyers; our submarines are largely out of date and inefficient, and as to the flying service, it can hardly be said to exist.

In the face of such flagrant deficiencies it is not ridiculous to waste time in congratulating ourselves on a new super-dreadnought? And there are but a few of the many disadvantages we labor under. We are in a deplorable state of unreadiness. False notions of economy have led to a prodigious waste of expenditure, and the rhetoric that attends such occasions as the launching of the Arizona, will not take the pains to consider the enormous handicap that would be ours if ever it were necessary to turn the navy to account. We have sunk in a few years from the second to the fourth place among the navies of the world, and cannot for a long time to come be put in readiness to stand up before a first class power with any hope of success. Nothing can be done to secure an adequate navy until the public wakes up and realizes that it takes more than a few great battleships to make a navy.

Brooklyn's Subway.

With the official opening of the Fourth Avenue subway Brooklyn, at last, after ten years' planning and work, has an underground transit line of her own. To be sure, it will be connected at one end with Manhattan, but even the most loyal sons of the borough across the river want to come here frequently. The Fourth Avenue tube, with its subsidiary lines, will be a huge transit system of importance and benefit, as the present extension of the Interborough subway to Brooklyn, depending for its Brooklyn traffic on feeder lines with an extra fare to be counted in the passengers' budgets, never could be.

The new tube represents the last word in underground construction and equipment. With its separate tunnels, higher and wider than those of the Interborough subway, better ventilation is assured. The cars are all steel, 10 feet wide and 67 feet long, with three side doors. By this route Coney Island will be, on the express trains, only half an hour from Manhattan.

The great South Brooklyn district and Flatbush will have in this system a means of rapid transit which is bound to stimulate growth—not speculative operations in real estate, but solid development. Brooklyn has waited a long time for this subway, but is heartily to be congratulated now that it is here, in operation. It is good enough and means enough in Brooklyn's future to have waited for.

Travers a Victor.

Mr. "Jerry" Travers may be counted upon always to "come back." It is apparently a psychological power which he possesses in marked degree. A match player and an amateur, he has beaten the country's best professional field in medal play following the most discouraging slump ever suffered by a golf champion in his prime.

His famous third shot for the tenth hole in the last round of the Baltusrol tournament is typical of the man and of his greater recovery extending over a year. Having sliced his drive out of bounds, he had hooked his second into the rough, 140 yards from the green, while the machine-like Brady, his professional opponent, only one stroke behind him, proceeded on the even tenor of his way to take the hole at par in the manner of his kind. With the open championship hanging in the balance before a "gallery" of 10,000 skeptics, his ball buried under tall grass and underbrush, could "Jerry" Travers "come back"? Yes, he, out of the whole world, could, and did, with a slash of his masher into the undergrowth which landed the little white ball within thirty inches of the cup.

His career is replete with sudden miracles like this one. Hazards stimulate him to the accomplishment of the superhuman. In halving the tenth hole with Brady it was a physical hazard he surmounted. In winning the open championship of the United States it was the infinitely greater moral hazard expressed in the generally known belief of his followers that his days as champion were over.

The regard which his countrymen entertain for Mr. Travers, always humanly cordial, will be greatly intensified by his latest exploit. The steady, consistent player they admire, but they love the demigod who can rise like the Phoenix from the ashes of his own defeat. Henceforth let "Jerry's" name galvanize every forlorn hope. For while there's life there's—Travers!

The question agitating the community up to a late hour last night was, Which did the Arizona take first, the drink or the chaser?

An alleged letter of the Kaiser's says Germany's only object is a profitable peace. As if any peace could be more profitable than the one which existed prior to this war!

Dr. Lloyd of the United States Health Service, says rats eat \$100,000,000 of food each year. That ought to stimulate the rat-trap industry.

Prison Term Hovers Above Siegel's Head—Headline.

The latter's complaint would be, no doubt, that aviation was becoming too general.

An Extra Session Needed.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: The United States of America was founded with the primary idea, as an illustrious American well said, of "government of the people, by the people and for the people."

Therefore, I want to be enrolled as another American who agrees with The Tribune in its editorial of June 2. This is not Germany. In Germany the Kaiser is boss. If he hadn't been, does any sane person believe that Germany would have precipitated the war of the worlds? When the war began on every hand I heard Americans of German descent (I won't call them German-Americans, because I don't believe it possible to be both German and American) say in pretty plain language what they thought of the Kaiser. These people knew the facts about Germany's preparedness and the Kaiser's personal wish to spill some blood. They knew also how little the common people of Germany were allowed to say whether there should be war or not.

We have a republican form of government. It is true that the President is a great man, but I say no man is so great that he is greater than the people, and, therefore, it is imperative that an extra session of Congress be assembled. If President Wilson really wants the sentiment of all sections of the country on the German question, relief from the defective military and naval organization, etc., what better way could he get it than from the representatives of the people in Congress assembled?

As it is today, our diplomacy is nothing more than an "academic discussion," and while perhaps no man has a bigger store of rhetoric in storage than the President, it is time we had something else. It's time that "watchful waiting" was sent along with Mr. Bryan, unless perchance it is being held for the grand exit of "Uncle Josephus," our "moving-picture admiral." T. P. Metuchen, N. J., June 19, 1915.

The Italian "Tipperary."

(From The Manchester Guardian.)
The popular martial song of Italy that is likely to be the favorite of the Italian soldier is "E Bersagliero," which is described as a "canto patriottico." The words are those of a girl singing about her lover, whom she calls "Torre," the diminutive for "Salvatore." He has said good-bye to her, has joined the Bersagliero, and has started for the frontier. It is an old song, and the melody was sung years ago at the Empire in London to French words. It is a song of the Triple Alliance, and the frontier meant the French frontier, for "E Bersagliero" was printed at Leipzig as well as in Italy. On the cover there is the name of the "deposited" for Germany and Austria-Hungary. It will be strange for the Germans and the Austrians to hear the Italians singing it now as they fight by the side of the French and advance over the Austrian frontier. The chorus of the song is—
"The Bersagliero wear feathers in their hats, O! what a lot of poultry we shall have to pluck!"

WHY BULGARIA HESITATES

She Wants Macedonia, Not What Greece Wants to Give Her.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: Mr. Solon Styliou I. Vlasto, in his article in The Sunday Tribune of June 13, offers an interesting but not entirely accurate presentation of affairs in the Balkans—with an especial bearing upon the reasons for the failure of Greece, Rumania and Bulgaria to enter the war of the nations on the side of the Allies. After having read the article one gets the impression that the good Greeks are aching to plunge into the conflict, while the bad Bulgarians are holding them back from giving the coup de grace to the "foe of small nationalities" by ranging their brave army and their invincible fleet with the land and sea forces of Great Britain, France and Russia in the Dardanelles and on the Gallipoli Peninsula.

This malicious attitude of Bulgaria Mr. Vlasto ascribes to the influence of Germany, which has succeeded in blinding the Bulgarians to their vital interests in this period of tumultuous rearrangement of the frontiers of Europe. And because of this attitude, Mr. Vlasto asserts, "neither Greece nor Rumania is willing to go to the assistance of the Triple Entente."

The assumption that Bulgaria is governed from Berlin is far-fetched and fanciful. The Bulgarian people have no sense of kinship with Germany, whether racial or historical. On the other hand, popular sentiment in the country is inevitably on the side of Russia, one of the members of the Triple Entente. Then why does not Bulgaria cast in her lot with the Allies, and thus permit Greece to achieve her destiny, fast dwindling into nothingness with the passing of every day that does not bring the great and decisive event of Hellenic—or rather Romaic—intervention in the struggle?

The answer is eloquently evident to every traveler in the part of Macedonia which is under Greek occupation. This answer is that since the retirement of the Bulgarian troops from Macedonia under the combined pressure of five nations, among whom the Greek army was almost the least effective factor, the Greeks have been carrying on a campaign of extermination against the Bulgarian population, with severities which far exceed the record established by the Turks, whom Mr. Vlasto affects to despise so profoundly.

Bulgaria has only one interest in this tragic situation and that is the liberation of her children in Macedonia. Bulgaria had not in 1912, and she has not now, any desire to play the part of a Balkan Prussia. She is perfectly willing that Greece should have all that belongs to her, by the race-test, in Asia Minor. She is equally willing that Serbia should acquire not only a window upon the Adriatic, but also the Serb elements in Austria—that is, if Austria should let her; that Rumania should annex Transylvania and Bessarabia, if she can; that Montenegro should rule in Scutari and even march to Vienna, if that were possible.

Bulgaria is perfectly willing that Greeks should rule in Greece, Serbs in Serbia, Rumanians in Rumania. But she most emphatically objects to the preposterous attempt of the Greco-Serbo-Rumanian conspirators to frustrate her legitimate desire for the unification of all her people under their own flag. If the Greeks—call them Romaioi, if you prefer—are sincere in their desire to save the Allies from irretrievable disaster, and incidentally to achieve their own destiny in Asia Minor, let them now, instead of tomorrow, yield to Bulgaria that which is hers, and which will be hers on some tomorrow close at hand.

Until that act of justice has been done to a people who in 1912 crushed the Ottoman empire at the point of its greatest power, in order to liberate their oppressed brothers, only to see them fall under a heavier yoke than the Turkish yoke at its heaviest, Bulgaria will continue to maintain an attitude of menace toward all her enemies.

As for Adrianople, that is a sop which Bulgaria disdains. She disdains it because she is not animated by land-hunger. What she wants is her people. And the population of the part of Adrianople which still remains in Turkey is not, like that of Greek and Serbian Macedonia, overwhelmingly Bulgarian. SVETOSAR TONJOROFF.

New York, June 13, 1915.

Arbitration for German Trouble.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: At this time, when the relations between our government and that of Germany are to a certain extent inharmonious, we should not forget that in the past the countries have been in accord. That these transactions of which we complain and which are causing dissension have taken place in the heat of battle involving the greater part of Europe.

That if any wrongs have been perpetrated against our government and our citizens by Germany we can never be adequately compensated. Owing to our position in the world, protected by the solemn agreement of all civilized governments, entered into a hundred years ago and known as the Monroe Doctrine, our relations in times of war between European nations are in a sense restricted, and especially so where matters in connection with a warring government might lead to a disregard of this doctrine.

The wrongs done us, if any, are past transactions, and should be adjusted by a board of arbitration formed and agreed to by both countries, composed of the leading citizens of neutral powers, which board might be empowered to regulate or at least suggest our rights, duties and powers as a neutral nation, not only to Germany but to the other countries involved in the future and to the end of the war. SAMUEL WESTON.

Stillwell, Okla., June 9, 1915.

Shame Upon Us!

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: Shame upon you all! The vile abuse you have heaped upon a man who sacrifices everything for the sake of a Christian ideal is one of the darkest blot in the history of newspaperdom in America. But rant and rave as you may, you have not yet stirred the common people's blood. Your vile lies and catch-penny appeals to patriotism, that last refuge of scoundrels, are of no avail. A war with Mexico or with Germany, with Bryan either in or out of the Cabinet, will not be popular. That frightful spectacle of war drunk Europe is enough to sober even the most blatant of hypocritical flag-wavers. Rant on, ye scribes, Pharisees and hypocrites! But bear one thing in mind: the war will not be over when the next Democratic National Convention convenes, and to prevent Bryan's nomination then will give you all the real hard work that you want.

The people want peace, and plenty of it. Bryan sacrifices everything for peace. Do you hear a noise? No, I'm not a Democrat; neither have I mugged for Bryan. There is an anti-khaki campaign in the offing. That's the noise. A. C. WORLEY.

New Milford, Conn., June 9, 1915.

VOTES FOR SMOKERS!



"THE PROGRESSIVE PROBLEM"

One Who Goes Back Cannot Fight and Is a Quitter.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: Your editorial of to-day is a good lead toward a useful analysis of the party line-ups. The Tribune and many Progressives can agree upon what constitute the salient facts of the present situation, but I think will disagree upon the course of action that the Progressives should now pursue. The Progressives ought not to do as does the man who votes at odds with his convictions in order not to "lose" his vote. In the majority of voters the fear of "losing" their vote by voting for a man who "cannot win" (but who is their first choice) is greater than their fear of doing wrong, of acting out of accord with their convictions.

The Progressive who "goes back" is a quitter, so far as I have been able to read feelings and motives. Some of those who go back emit as they go a large noise, as of one having formed a happy conclusion after an unhappy season of hungered reasoning. These, we note, are the men who among the Progressives found that they were fasting where they had come to feed. They have a sort of stomach, but practically no conscience. The Republican party in recent years has travelled on its stomach at the expense of real democracy. One constructive critic outside of the big party is more useful to the country than thousands of mere voters who dissent in its course only to the extent of walking backwards within its ranks, but otherwise are among those present when progress is killed.

In the last ten years the value and effectiveness of organized insurgency have been shown very clearly. You in effect advise the individual who dissents to be an independent. I say, go further, and organize independently, for in this way liberty and progress have come to men. The Progressives are organized dissenters, whose demise is given prominence daily by the Big Party press. Some corpse!

Being without a party one can betray it, but being without one can fight it. There is small use in being a member of a bunch headed and travelling the wrong way, with no appearance in leadership or course that suggests an early change of face and purpose. LOUIS M. WILSON.

Schenectady, N. Y., June 14, 1915.

No Reform in Republicanism.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: Referring to your editorial in the issue of the 14th inst., in which you give the letter of "In-a-quandary," raising the question as to what the Progressives will do now that a supposedly large number of the third party have returned to the Republican fold, I want to challenge the accuracy of such supposition. It is admitted that some men who professed for a time Progressive sympathies have gone back, disappointed, as we believe, because of their inability to control for selfish purposes, but that any considerable portion have returned to the Republican party is not believable, since, like the writer, they left the party for reasons involving principles. It is well, perhaps, to suggest working for betterment within the party, but when one has honestly and persistently tried to do this from the birth of the party till 1911, and been forced to realize all such efforts were of no avail, what then? And as efforts present themselves to the thoughtful person to-day, what is to be his conclusion?

Syracuse and Albany have given us in a most striking manner a picture of the "boss" and of the "leader." Organization we must have. Leaders we must have, and follow. But driven as cattle, by a corrupt boss, whose purpose is selfish, never!

It would be well if those prominent in the councils of the Republican party could realize this as the viewpoint of a mass of voters, who, as you suggest, can and will remain politically eclectic. NO QUANDARY.

Goshen, N. Y., June 14, 1915.

Diplomatic English.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: It is deplorably disconcerting to find that the inability of the President, the late Secretary of State or his present ad interim successor to write "good English" has put this country on record as acknowledging the justness of Germany's contention. In the fifth paragraph—as printed in The

Tribune—of the note to Ambassador Gerard dated June 9, after a recapitulation of the German claims in the Lusitania case, the note declares: "It [the United States government] is able, therefore, to assure the Imperial German government that it [the United States government] has been misinformed," and because of this misstatement presumed to exact a "strict accountability." Shade of Lindley Murray! What more can Germany demand than such a confession? WILLIAM ROTCH WARE.

East Milton, Mass., June 12, 1915.

Getting Rid of Ants.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: It gives me great pleasure to be able to answer fully and accurately the question of Mayor Sonn as to the proper method to employ to rid one's garden of the hideous pest—ants. There are two well known and very effective methods:

(1) The Philanthropic Method.—Hire several tramps at 20 cents an hour to sit on the ant hills for limited periods. These w. k. pests are notoriously fond of pants legs and will in a short time make their abode there in preference to the garden. If the tramp is then immersed periodically in the horse trough the little ants will soon all be drowned. The operation should be repeated each time the ants appear in the garden. It is economy as well as philanthropy to keep at least one tramp on hand for this purpose.

(2) The Scientific Method.—It is well known that it is only the female ants that do any work or work any damage. Now, if one male ant is furnished for each female he will devote all her time to the vain attempt to coerce the male to work, and will gradually starve to death. After her death the male will die of a broken heart. This method is slower than No. 1, but more effective, for no other ants will infest a garden when so many dead ones are lying about. New York, June 14, 1915. O. F. W.

Anti-Enlistment.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: I am another of those not in favor of the Anti-Enlistment League. Being in the service of the United States as a member of the national guard (Coast Artillery), I would be one of the first to enlist, and so would all members of my regiment. This spirit was shown when trouble with Mexico was imminent and every company volunteered to go. In fact, every man who was able physically—they all volunteered.

I consider that as long as human passions exist in this country there will be war. The only way to prevent war, in my mind, is to be prepared. I suppose the Anti-Enlistment League thinks that it is very nice to have no army, no expense to the government, and I suppose if nobody was in the army and we knew some other country was preparing for war we would calmly wait until they declared war and then let them come over and wipe out the United States. You will find that most people do not want war, but if war occurs it is a man's first duty (if he is not supporting a family) to go out and defend his country's flag, regardless of anything else. Any man who joins the Anti-Enlistment League is a coward, and deserves a coward's or traitor's punishment—to be shot at sunrise.

WILLIAM C. WILSON,

8th Coast Defence Company, Coast Artillery Corps.

New York, June 9, 1915.

Honest Advertising.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: How is this for really and truly honest advertising:

TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS REWARD.
I will give the above amount to any one whom I have hung paper for this season who will state on oath that they told me after the work was done that they were not satisfied with the job. I have papered 88 rooms this season and some of them in the very costliest homes in Jackson, and all were pleased. I expect to please many more. Yours truly, J. D. MOORE.

It is from "The Jackson (Ky.) Times," and Jackson is the county seat of "Bloody Breathitt," of which you have no doubt heard. They may shoot a man there, but they don't try to skin him alive. W. J. L.

New York, June 11, 1915.

EDUCATION'S FUTURE.

Decision Necessary Between City Present System and Gary Plan.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: The New York Board of Education has before it for speedy settlement what Professor John Dewey has recently characterized as the most momentous question regarding the future of New York City that has occupied the attention of its citizens for a long time. The question concerns the introduction of the Gary or Wirt plan into the public schools of The Bronx. Of the 35,000 public school children in The Bronx only 25,000 can be accommodated in the present schools. In order to meet the situation the Board of Education has asked for \$1,000,000 to build two new schools. These schools will accommodate not more than 5,000 additional children.

By the time these schools are completed, however, the rapid growth of population will have made the problem of congestion a pressing as before. Even after these cost schools are built there will be as many children on a part time schedule as there are now. The present methods of meeting these problems are, therefore, like filling a bottomless pit. The capacity of the schools will never catch up to the population. A very large percentage of the children of The Bronx, as well as of the other boroughs of the city, will have permanently to suffer a mutilated and hurried schooling.

The work planned now before the Board on the other hand, involves the spending of \$800,000 in the remodeling of twelve school buildings along the lines of increased facilities in recreation and vocational and scientific training so successfully carried out at present in the schools of Gary, Indiana. This scheme, with its ingenious utilization of the extended school plant, will provide accommodations at once for 45,000 children, or a greater number than may be expected to require schooling in the district for several years to come. In other words, if the Board adopts the Gary plan it will be able at a saving of \$300,000, to accommodate 15,000 more children, for whom, according to the present methods, at least six new schoolhouses would have to be built, at a cost of nearly \$5,000,000. The Gary plan, therefore, saves for the city over \$2,000,000 on the Bronx schools alone, while the children have the advantages of a much more varied and stimulating education than the present schools are able to provide.

The decision of the Board is, therefore, momentous, because it will designate the direction which public school education is to take in this city for many years to come. The issue is a clear one between a costly, ineffective and archaic scheme of public education and an economical, democratic and highly efficient scheme which has already solved the vexing problem in other ready school boards of education cities. The New York Board of Education has already shown its approval of the Gary plan by recently appropriating \$150,000 for additional facilities in Public School 45 in The Bronx, where many features of the Gary scheme have already been in successful operation all winter, under the supervision of Mr. Wirt and the principal, Mr. Angelo Patri.

Taxpayers, parents and educators should make the Board see in no unambiguous terms that the public realize the far-reaching significance of this decision. They should demand, at once, that in the interest of efficient modern education, good citizenship, as well as the plainest financial economy, this money be granted for the remodeling of these twelve schools of The Bronx. RANDOLPH S. BOURENE.

New York, June 11, 1915.

Disasters to Nebraskans.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: Does not the strange case of the political Nebraskan suggest a solution of the mystery surrounding the good ship of that name? Is it not just possible that, anticipating the example of the former, the latter torpedoed herself? RUSSELL E. GEVER.

Brooklyn, June 12, 1915.